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Viewing cable 09BERLIN1476, OHB-SYSTEM TO BUILD GERMAN OPTICAL SPY SATELLITE; LOOKING AT U.S. MARKET

If you are new to these pages, please read an introduction on the [structure of a cable](#) as well as how to [discuss them](#) with others. See also the [FAQs](#)

Understanding cables

Every cable message consists of three parts:

- The top box shows each cable's unique reference number, when and by whom it originally was sent, and what its initial classification was.
- The middle box contains the header information that is associated with the cable. It includes information about the receiver(s) as well as a general subject.
- The bottom box presents the body of the cable. The opening can contain a more specific subject, references to other cables ([browse by origin](#) to find them) or additional comment. This is followed by the main contents of the cable: a summary, a collection of specific topics and a comment section.

To understand the justification used for the classification of each cable, please use this [WikiSource](#) article as reference.

Discussing cables

If you find meaningful or important information in a cable, please link directly to its unique reference number. Linking to a specific paragraph in the body of a cable is also possible by copying the appropriate link (to be found at the paragraph symbol). Please mark messages for social networking services like Twitter with the hash tags **#cablegate** and a hash containing the reference ID e.g. **#09BERLIN1476**.

Reference ID	Created	Released	Classification	Origin
09BERLIN1476	2009-11-20 15:34	2011-08-30 01:44	SECRET	Embassy Berlin

Appears in these articles:

<http://www.aftenposten.no/spesial/wikileaksdokumenter/article3985652.ece>

VZCZCXYZ0000
PP RUEHWEB

DE RUEHRL #1476/01 3241534
ZNY SSSSS ZZH
P 201534Z NOV 09
FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5837
INFO RUCNFRG/FRG COLLECTIVE
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 1046
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS 0974
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHINGTON DC
RUEHNO/USMISSION USNATO 1500
RUEKJCS/HQ USEUCOM LO WASHINGTON DC
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC
RUEHRL/USDAO BERLIN GE
RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS
RUCUSTR/USSTRATCOM OFFUTT AFB NE

S E C R E T BERLIN 001476

SIPDIS STATE FOR EUR/CE PETER SCHROEDER STATE FOR ISN/MDSP DICK BUENNEKE STATE FOR OES/SAT DAVID TURNER NSC FOR PETER MARQUEZ

E.O. 12958: DECL: 11/20/2034 TAGS: [ETTC](#) [PGOV](#) [PINR](#) [MCAP](#) [PREL](#) [TSPA](#) [CH](#) [FR](#) [GM](#)

SUBJECT: OHB-SYSTEM TO BUILD GERMAN OPTICAL SPY SATELLITE; LOOKING AT U.S. MARKET

REF: A. BERLIN 1324 B. BERLIN 1207 C. 08 STATE 48069

Classified By: Global Affairs Officer David L. Fisher for reasons 1.4 (b), (c) and (d).

1. (C) SUMMARY: OHB-System, Germanys top satellite manufacturer and third largest in Europe, will be the prime contractor on Germanys planned
2. (C) On October 2, EconOff met with OHB-System CEO, Mr. Berry Smutny at the US Embassy in Berlin for general consultations. Smutny became CE OHB-SYSTEM TO BE PRIME CONTRACTOR FOR HIROS -----
3. (C) Smutny acknowledged that OHB-Systems role as the primary contractor on HiROS is out of political necessity to ensure that a purely Germ OHB-SYSTEMS ASPIRATION TO JUMP INTO THE US MARKET -----
4. (C) Smutny said increasing OHBs footprint in the US market is one of the reasons he was hired, but his company would make its move "when th
5. (C) Smutny noted that breaking into the US market is particularly tricky these days, particularly with defense-related exports. He said in OHB-SYSTEM: GERMANY'S HOUSE INTEL SATELLITE MANUFACTURER -----
6. (C) OHB-System is Germanys preferred contractor for highly sensitive intelligence satellites due to its 100 percent German ownership and re OHB-SYSTEM GOING GLOBAL WITH SMUTNY AT THE HELM -----
7. (C) OHB-System brought in Smutny, a well respected industry veteran with expertise in satellite communications and international marketing, THE "FRENCHIES" STEAL MORE IPR FROM GERMANY THAN CHINA/RUSSIA -----
8. (C) Smutny said his primary reason for leaving Tesat-SpaceCom was that he was sick of developing world class German-origin satellite technc CUT THE CHINESE A LITTLE SLACK ON ITAR -----
9. (S) While Smutny spent a great deal of time accusing the French of economic espionage, he took a much softer view on Chinas espionage activ COMMENT -----
10. (S) Smutny painted a clear picture that French involvement in German industry is not to be trusted and he feels that German politicians ar MURPHY